

Norfolk Southern Corporation and the track improvements in Western North Carolina and shall report annually to the General Assembly on these matters.

Requested by: Senators Gulley, Robinson, Plyler, Odom, Lee; Representatives Buchanan, Cole, J. Crawford, Bowie, Easterling, Oldham, Redwine, Thompson

HIGHWAY TRUST FUND STUDY COMMITTEE

SECTION 27.6.(a) Study Committee Established. – There is established a Highway Trust Fund Study Committee to report to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee.

SECTION 27.6.(b) Membership. – The Study Committee shall be composed of 16 members as follows:

- (1) The Chairs of the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee.
- (2) Four Representatives and three public members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (3) Four Senators and three public members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

The appointing authorities shall make their appointments to reflect the urban-rural diversity of the population of the State.

SECTION 27.6.(c) Duties of the Study Committee. – The Committee may study all aspects of the Highway Trust Fund. The study shall include the examination of all the following:

- (1) The current status, cost estimates, and feasibility of Highway Trust Fund projects currently listed in Article 14 of Chapter 136 of the General Statutes.
- (2) Unanticipated problems with the structure of the Highway Trust Fund.
- (3) The gap between transportation funding structures and the actual transportation needs of the State.
- (4) Allocation issues raised by the structure of the transportation funding equity distribution formula in G.S. 136-17.2A.
- (5) The feasibility of altering the project eligibility requirements of the Highway Trust Fund.
- (6) The feasibility of altering the funding allocation structure of the Highway Trust Fund.
- (7) Any other issue related to the Highway Trust Fund or transportation funding.

SECTION 27.6.(d) Vacancies. – The appointing authority shall fill any vacancy on the Study Committee.

SECTION 27.6.(e) Cochairs. – Cochairs of the Study Committee shall be the cochairs of the Joint Legislative